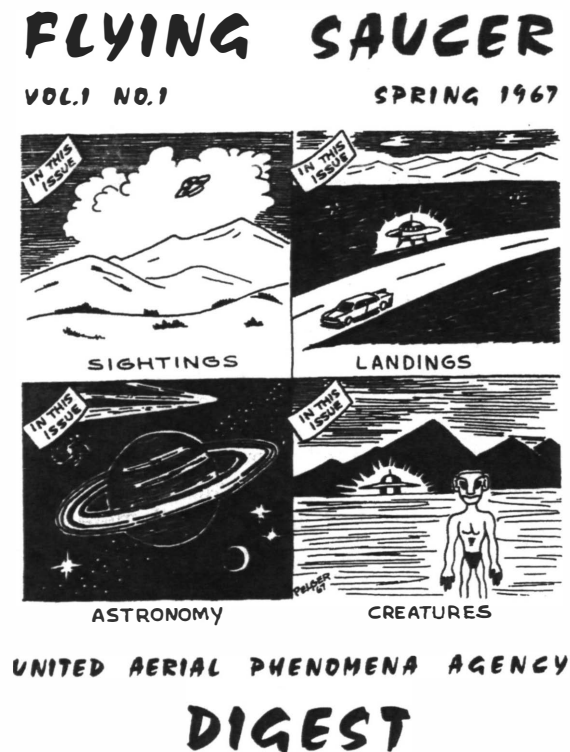


FLYING SAUCER DIGEST

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50 YEARS OF FSD

Not too many UFO publications have survived to their 50th anniversaries, so FSD making that milestone is indeed something for us to celebrate. In fact, FSD is one of the last traditional ink on paper “ufozines” left in the world today. Internet “publications” have almost totally taken over, and whether that’s bad or good I’ll leave for someone else to decide. Anyway, for now we intend to keep FSD’s banner flying for as long as it is practical for us to do so.

FSD was conceived by Ron Pelger and Allan Manak late in 1966, as they both saw the need for a fully illustrated publication with thoughtful articles and timely features. Ron took care of the illustrations and assisted Al with the editorial content. The pilot issue came out early the next June and saw instant success. I joined the FSD family in 1970 when Al convinced me to have FSD absorb my “original” UFO Magazine, and I’ve held various editorial positions ever since.

Over these long years FSD has had only three editors, Allan Manak, Robert S. Easley and yours truly. Al left us way to soon back in 1999, and we’re sure he would be delighted that something he helped create so many years ago was still going strong. - Rick Hilberg

FLORIDA WITNESSES SPOT HOVERING UFO

A Florida witness at Orlando reported watching a cylinder-shaped object silently hovering over a nearby building, according to testimony from the MUFON witness reporting database.

The witness was driving along Conway Road in Orlando, heading north from Tradeport Avenue at 9:12 p.m. on June 1, 2017, when the incident began. "This is a common area that planes are landing in, so seeing lights in the sky approaching us was very normal to see," the witness sated. "I drive down this street almost daily around the same time, so am used to seeing certain sights along the way." While approaching a red light at Judge Road, the witness and a sister noticed planes approaching them when one looked out of place.

"I joked about how it could be a UFO because of how odd the flight pattern and lights were. We both kept steady on it; I watching while trying to pay attention to the cars in front of me. It approached us closer and closer and we both got nervous because it was the size of a plane hovering over the building off to the right side of us, maybe 50 feet or less away from where we were."

The two watched as the object hovered over a building, with lights flashing, with no sound.

"We waited to see if we were seeing things, if it was actually moving and maybe we didn't see the movement for whatever reason. No movement, still hovering over the building and flashing lights. About 10-15 seconds after we realized it was not a plane and that we were in fact seeing a giant object hovering over a building next to us, it disappeared."

The witness pulled off to the side of the road to see if the lights appeared anywhere. "Nothing. The area was clear, its path had no obstructions, yet it was nowhere to be seen. So where could it have possibly gone? The rest of the way home, 15 minutes total, we talked about what to do next. Tell someone? File a report? Keep it to ourselves? We are definitely sure of what we saw. This was not normal and definitely not a plane." Source: Roger Marsh, "Open Minds" June 27, 2017.

BIGFOOT BOOKLET FROM FSD NOW IN STOCK

In conjunction with our 50th anniversary celebration, our latest publication is a revised edition of our 1992 look at the Bigfoot mystery as seen through the popular media in those years. *FSD's Bigfoot Reader* features accounts of this mysterious being from all parts of the United States, as well as other similar upright walking beasts from other parts of the globe. It also offers reasoned speculation about the origin of these creatures and the fact that so far no specimens have been found and recognized by science. There are also illustrations of witness reports as well as a distribution map of reported Bigfoot sightings.

FSD's Bigfoot Reader is now in stock and ready to ship for \$10.00 postpaid. Please make checks payable to Rick Hilberg and send to: Bigfoot, 377 Race St. Berea, Ohio 44017.

SCIENTIST FINDS "MESSAGES" IN CROP CIRCLES

Much pain but still time. Believe. There is good out there. Beware the bearers of false gifts and their broken promises. We oppose deception. Conduit closing.

A molecular biologist with a PhD in Chemistry from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) claims he can decode crop circles and many of them contain messages from aliens and human time travelers. Before you yell "Hoax!", he can also explain the differences between man-made (by today's humans) crop circles and those made by aliens and time travelers.

Dr. Horace Drew grew up in Florida and says he saw a silver, windowless UFO there at age 10. After getting his PhD, he moved to Australia to work for Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO). He has been studying crop circles for 20 years and lectures on them frequently, including the March UFO & Paranormal Research Society of Australia (UFO-PRSA) seminar in Sydney.

Drew has visited over 20 crop circle sites – he points out that they tend to be in Western or secularized counties (Japan, for example) but not in Australia. He admits that some are hoaxers but many others are not. After seeing them with his own eyes, Drew has determined that the crop circles contain an advanced form of binary coding and now claims he can break it down and has read a few of the messages.

Those messages are of two types, claims Drew. The ones from aliens are greetings from an advanced civilization that looks upon us the way we look upon animals. The binary code is a simple form of communication, like our whistles or bubbles are to dolphins. He believes they're not interested in being taken to our leader.

They are ahead of us like we are ahead of the dolphins and the whales.

The crop circles made by time travelers from the future are not even for us, says Drew. He thinks they're markers to help them identify time periods, but doesn't know enough about space time physics to decode the messages.

There are definitely humans living there in about 5000 years with time travel capability. They're coming back and flying all over Earth. They seem to just say "this is a certain day" and mark it.

When it comes to spotting hoax crop circles, Drew says to look for imperfections and sloppy work. Crops that are bent "halfway up" their stems instead of all the way to the ground are made by today's human hoaxers. Aliens and time travelers are perfectionists with advanced circle-making technology.

[They use an] unknown energy that heats the crops up. It's like microwave energy but is something beyond Earth's science. It can pattern the wheat. If there's a craft, it's silent, noiseless.

Dr. Drew even offers some proof for the doubters.

Laboratory results on plant or soil samples taken from a crop circle in Brazil in October of 2016 show that it was formed by unknown sterilizing images.

Hard to believe? Drew blames world leaders for spreading the "hoax" stories because they fear the panic that would ensue if humans knew that aliens and time travelers were real and were sending messages.

Are crop circles really messages from aliens or time travelers? Wouldn't such advanced civilizations or humans from the future want their greetings, advice or directions on how to get back stored on something a little more permanent? Source: "Mysterious Universe" March 14, 2017.

The Gate to Strange Phenomena is your entrance into the world of the paranormal. Each issue contains intriguing factual articles and an assortment of scientific occult related news clippings from around the world. A sample copy can be obtained by mailing \$2.00 to P.O. Box 43516, Richmond Heights, OH 44143.

CHURCHILL'S VIEWS ON ALIEN LIFE REVEALED

Churchill was certainly no stranger to science, as demonstrated by the fact that he funded many scientific endeavors during his time as Prime Minister and was the first ever to employ a science adviser. He also regularly met up with prominent scientists of the time such as Sir Bernard Lovell.

Now a new document has been discovered at the National Churchill Museum in Fulton, Missouri, which shows that Churchill had a keen interest in the possibilities of extraterrestrial life as well.

The 11-page draft, which most likely intended for late publication, was written in 1939 – the same year that the Second World War broke out.

Intriguingly, Churchill's thinking on the subject was very similar to that of today's scientists. He recognized that water was essential for life to exist on other worlds and speculated that other planets are likely to be found in orbit around distant stars.

He even displayed an understanding of the 'Goldilocks Zone' – the narrow region around a star in which the temperature would be "just right" for liquid water to exist on a planet's surface.

On the likelihood of intelligent extraterrestrial life, he suggested that human life on Earth should not be unique given the vastness of the universe.

He also maintained that it may one day be possible to visit other nearby worlds.

"One day, possibly even in the not very distant future, it may be possible to travel to the Moon, or even to Venus and Mars," he wrote.

"I for one, am not so immensely impressed by the success we are making of our civilization here that I am prepared to think we are the only spot in this immense universe which contains living, thinking creatures, or that we are the highest type of mental and physical development which has ever appeared in the vast compass of space and time." Source: "Unexplained Mysteries", February 16, 2017.

CANADIAN WITNESS DESCRIBES CIGAR-SHAPED UFO

A Canadian witness at Ottawa reported watching a white-gray colored, cigar-shaped object hovering and then moving away at incredible speed and making no sound, according to testimony from the MUFON witness reporting database.

The witness was alone on a home balcony smoking a cigarette at 4:30 a.m. on April 23, 2017, gazing at the waning crescent moon. "As I was observing the moon, thinking about different non-related things in my mind, I all of a sudden noticed a big, cigar-shaped object a couple degrees to the right of the moon," the witness stated.

"The object seemed large. It was of a white-gray color, cylindrical-shaped. What seemed to be the front of the cylinder was a couple degrees upward and the bottom a couple degrees downward. In other words, it was at an angle. It did not move. It was static in the sky at the moment I noticed it. A lapse of three seconds went by until the object seemed to pulsate with a white, circular light at the bottom end of the ship. In a fraction of a second after this pulse was emitted, the object propelled itself at an incredible speed. The movement lasted about a second. At the end of the second, the object pulsated another white circular light. This time at the front of the ship. And it seemed to have entered this light and disappeared. There were absolutely no sounds emitted whatsoever before, during or after the incident."

The witness noted that Ottawa Airport is about two minutes away from where the sighting happened. "I am used to seeing airplanes taking off or flying by. I always hear them, and I am more than certain that this was no plane. This object was huge, had no wings. It was static in the air. It made no sounds whatsoever. It flew at a speed of a shooting star upwards and disappeared."

After the incident, the witness went inside and woke up a friend. "I told him what had happened, but he was really sleepy, so he went to bed." Source: Roger Marsh, "Open Minds" May 25, 2017.

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UFOs IN ANDALUCIA, SPAIN SINCE THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR – by Leo Rama Granada

I would seem that UFOs are a forgotten subject, stunted in the 20th century, buried by its own controversial and absurd narrative. Despite the disbelief it continues to produce, it is also true that the UFO phenomenon remains alive and is real, at least to thousands of witnesses of the unexplained, ranging from uneducated peasants to airline pilots with thousands of hours flying time, rank and much prestige to lose, whose stories in the few existing unclassified reports are of extraordinary value. The phenomenon's nature is an entirely different thing, and cannot be reduced to a single source: outbreaks of schizophrenia? weather phenomena? military maneuvers? Or could aliens be behind it all.

It's a likelihood. More than a few scientists consider the extraterrestrial hypothesis (ETH) to be a valid one based on their latest research, as Jose Manuel Nieves has been telling us in the most empirical pages of this newspaper. It was precisely *Diario ABC de Sevilla* that decided to publish a series of UFO sightings a few decades ago. Those stories told by Manuel Ramirez, preserved in the ever-helpful newspaper library, have provided the inspiration for the recently published book *Ovnis en Andalucia* by Jose Manuel Garcia Bautista, the journalist from Seville.

A hundred of these cases, arranged by chronological order, comprise Garcia Bautista's research. He is convinced that there is life out there, that we have always been visited, even though some of the artifacts may prove to be terrestrial. "The universe is so large that it is hard not to imagine that some distant star has planets with life on them," says the enthusiastic researcher from Seville, trying to lend dignity to the scorned subject of UFOs, as if the eyewitness accounts of those who sincerely discuss what they saw had no value whatsoever.

Although the UFO phenomenon as such did not emerge until 1947 in the United States, it is possible to find stories in Spain that describe strange lights in the southern skies since Medieval times. But it is necessary to go back to the Spanish Civil War to find the first reliable accounts of UFOs over Andalucia.

It occurred at the front, and this is what *Dario ABC* had to say about it: "The sun was already out that morning of 5 February 1938 as the soldiers defending the position at Penon de la Mata (north of the province of Granada) endured the cold as best they could while keeping a watch over their position. The sky was completely clear and our witness – a fighter with the 76th Brigade – soon noticed something odd in the heavens.

The soldier defined it as something resembling "a Mexican hat: in the distance, flat aluminum in color. The slow-flying metal artifact placed itself over the witness, who was able to see the craft's underside,

resembling “a cartwheel” with a lens similar to a camera at its core, giving a sense of depth.” It rotated counterclockwise and vanished from the field of vision of the troops without further incident.

One of the best-known cases involves the first-person experience of Dioniso Avila, an elderly and respected resident of Los Vallares in Jaen. It was 1996 and Dionisio was walking his dog through the endless olive groves when a shining device appeared before him. After surveying their device, two slender beings, clad in tight-fitting silver suits, tossed him what he described as a star. As he picked it up, it proved to be a spherical stone. “It summarizes the entire absurd nature of the UFO phenomenon,” writes Garcia Bautista.

The nut-sized stone bore a curious inscription, similar to the symbols appearing on the craft: IOI – famous “stick zero stick” that prompted pioneering UFO researcher Juan Jose Benitez to launch his investigation on “El anillo de plata” (The silver Ring), presented on Spanish television’s “Planeta Encantado” broadcast.

Dionisio never again made contact with the humanoids who, according to him, healed him of his maladies, as testified by the residents of his small municipality. Other witnesses fared less well in similar incidents, such as the attack experienced by a Seville resident on the cold night of 28 January 1976.

Once more, it was the Andalusian issue of the *ABC* newspaper – with the byline of Benigno Gonzalez – that collected the mind-bending account of Miguel Fernandez Carrasco, who was returning to Benacazon after having spent time with his girlfriend in Sanlucar la Mayor. Feeling blessed, he saw a pair of shooting stars as he returned home. Shortly after, a “flying telephone booth” shooting red and white lights landed before him. Two tall humanoids emerged. Fear gripped the witness, who broke into a frantic run down the train tracks.

The vehicle took off and chased the witness, terrified by the prospect of being hunted down before he could cover the 1.5 kilometers remaining before he could reach his home. He wasn’t wrong. The device fired what Garcia Bautista defines as a nearly lethal “beam of light, a luminous weapon” at Miguel Fernandez. The man was badly injured on the ground, practically unconscious, “bereft of breath and strength, burned, singed and toasted” by something unknown to him.

Taken to the San Lazaro Hospital, the farmer gave his testimony and the 6th Court of Instruction in Seville initiated transactions to look into an alleged UFO attack on a human for the first time ever in Spain. The case was dismissed two weeks later due to inability to find a culprit for the crime reported by Fernandez Carrasco.

These are only some of the cases compiled by Jose Manuel Garcia Bautista. *Ovis en Andalucia* compiles many other stories regarding an apparently senseless phenomenon, one that has changed over the years: humanoids in Fuengirola, an Algeciras, the harassing UFO of La Antilla, the one Benaldmaadena, the one of Moron...even USOs – unidentified submarine objects – seen in the Bay of Cadiz!

“If we published all of the UFO incidents in Spain that resulted in intercept missions, we would be providing a sense of tremendous insecurity,” a military friend told Garcia Bautista. The military has much material to declassify, contained in boxes in damp basements, waiting to see the much needed light of day. Source: Scott Corrales, “Inexplicata – The Journal of Hispanic Ufology” May 22, 2017.

CALIFORNIA IS HOME TO THE MOST UFO REPORTS

More UFOs have been reported over California than any other U.S. state, claims a new book on UFO encounters.

The authors of the book *UFO Sightings Desk Reference* analyzed more than 120,000 UFO sighting reports submitted to the Mutual UFO Network and the National UFO Reporting Center.

California easily came out on top with 16,000 sightings between 2001 and 2015.

“We found that UFOs were sighted in every county in the United States,” said co-author Cheryl Costa. “Every county had at least one sighting sometime in the past 15 years.”

Exactly why California has produced the most reports remains unclear, however Costa believes that the state’s good weather, which encourages people to be outdoors, may be a major factor.

Within the state itself, Santa County saw the most sightings with 569 reports while Alameda County came in second with 518. Third place went to San Francisco with 327 sightings.

“Most people were very sincere about what they reported, about what they think they saw,” said Costa. “They weren’t jerking us around.

"But we understand the only proof some people are going to accept is a space ship cracked up in the mall parking lot." Source: "Unexplained Mysteries" May 1, 2017.

HOVERING SPHERE IN OHIO

An Ohio witness at Sagamore Hills Township reported driving towards an unknown light and discovered a hovering sphere just above the tree line, according to testimony from the MUFON witness reporting database.

The witness was driving home from a gym at 9:30 p.m. on April 30, 2017, when the incident began. "For some reason, I passed up my street, continued down a main road looking for somewhere to turn around, when a light caught my eye," the witness stated. "I assumed it was a plane, but upon further inspection I realized it wasn't."

The witness continued driving toward the light. "I parked my car in the middle of a side road where either a saucer or possibly a sphere was hovering above the tree line. It stood hovering for a few minutes, silently may I add, and then darted incredibly quickly (as in hundreds of miles per hour) down the tree line, instantaneously changed direction back to its original location and then shot up into the sky and out of sight.

"I have tried incredibly hard to think of what else it could have been, but I just can't disprove what I saw. I then sat in my car, dumbstruck, for minutes until returning home. For those who want to look up a map, the road is called Chaffee Road." Source: Roger Marsh, "Open Minds" May 4, 2017.

THE WIT OF CHARLES FORT – by Martin Piechota

"Upon May 28th, 1881, near the city of Worcester, England, a fishmonger with a procession of carts, loaded with several kinds of crabs and periwinkles, and with a dozen energetic assistants, appeared at a time when nobody on a busy road was looking. The fishmonger and his assistants grabbed sacks of periwinkles, and ran in a frenzy, slinging the things into fields on both sides of the road. They raced to gardens and some assistants, standing on the shoulders of other assistants, had sacks lifted to them, and dumped sacks on the high walls. Meanwhile other assistants, in a dozen carts, were furiously shoveling out periwinkles, about a mile along the road. Also, meanwhile, several boys were busily mixing in crabs. They were not advertising anything. Above all this was secrecy. The cost must have been- hundreds of dollars. They appeared without having been seen along the way, and they melted away equally mysteriously. There were houses all round, but nobody saw them.

"Would I be so kind to tell what, in the name of some slight approximation to sanity, I mean by telling such a story?

"But it is not my story. There was, upon May 28th, 1881, an occurrence near Worcester, and the conventional explanation was that a fishmonger did it. Inasmuch as he did it unobserved, if he did it, and inasmuch as he did it with tons upon acres, if he did it, he did it as I have described, if he did it?"

Charles Fort, *The Complete Books of Charles Fort*, Dover Books, NY, 1974, pp. 548-549.

Fort gives us a definition of a house in the *Book of the Damned*: "A barn is a house if one lives in it. If residence constitutes houseness, because of architecture does not, then a bird's nest is a house; and human occupancy is not the standard to judge by, because we speak of dog's houses; nor material, because we speak of snow houses of Eskimos – or a shell is a house to a hermit crab – or was to the mollusk who made it – or things seemingly so positively different as the White House at Washington and a shell on the seashore are seen to be continuous."

FORTEAN FLASHBACK - 1999

The Iraqi state-run *Alwan* weekly said in mid-August that drivers passing through Horan Valley outside the town of Haditha were reporting that "ghosts appeared next to the bridge, naked and doing some acrobatic moves. The ghosts were causing the drivers to panic," the paper said.

Alwan quoted motorist Shawki Sabar as saying, "they were almost human – although I could not concentrate on their looks because I was so scared and it was dark."

The ghosts were so lifelike that one motorist thought he'd hit a person and reported the accident to police. Source: Associated Press, August 22, 1999.